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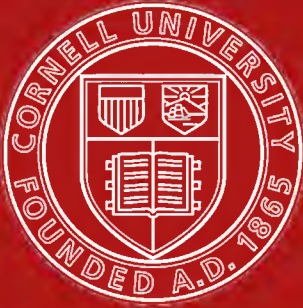
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RETURN
OF THE
NUMBER OF DIVORCES
IN
FOREIGN COUNTRIES

DURING THE LAST TEN YEARS.

PART I.—FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

*Presented to the House of Commons by Command of Her Majesty, in pursuance of
their Address dated July 30, 1894.*

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NOTE.—Returns have not yet been received from Brazil and Chile
The Circular was not sent to Her Majesty's Representatives in Italy or Portugal, as there are no legal provisions for Divorce in those countries. (See Miscellaneous No. 2 (1894), pp. 87 and 102.)

RETURN to an Address of the Honourable the House of Commons, dated July 30, 1894 ;

for—

“ A Return of the Number of Divorces granted in each of the British Colonies and Possessions, and in each of the principal Foreign Countries, together with the population, in each year during the past ten years.”

Circular addressed to Her Majesty's Representatives in the principal Foreign Countries.

My Lord,

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 8, 1894.

IN conformity with an Address of the House of Commons, I have to request that you will, if practicable, obtain and furnish me with a Return showing the number of divorces granted in the country or countries to the Government of which you are accredited, together with the population, in each year during the past ten years.

This Return is required to complete the information recently published relative to the laws of divorce in

and should be forwarded in a form suitable for presentation to Parliament.

I am, &c.

(Signed) KIMBERLEY.

Replies to preceding Circular.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

No. 1.

Mr. Pakenham to the Earl of Kimberley.—(Received November 27.)

My Lord,

Buenos Ayres, October 30, 1894.

IN reply to your Lordship's Circular despatch of the 8th August last, asking for a Return showing the number of divorces granted in this country, together with the population, for each year during the past ten years, I have the honour to state that it has been extremely difficult to obtain any particulars with regard to this subject,

as no Returns have ever been published; and that it is only with regard to the City and Province of Buenos Ayres that I have been able to procure any reliable information in conformity with the request contained in your Lordship's above-mentioned despatch.

In accordance with the data which have been supplied to me by the Ministry of the Interior, the number of applications made for divorce during the last ten years in the City and Province of Buenos Ayres have amounted to 2,139, but only in 118 cases has a sentence of ^{separation} ~~divorce~~ been granted.

In 1884 the population of the City and Province of Buenos Ayres was estimated at 956,000, but it is now reckoned at 1,600,000, viz., the province 1,000,000, and the City of Buenos Ayres 600,000 (the total population of the Republic amounting to about 5,000,000), so that the number of cases in which a sentence of divorce has been granted is very small as compared with the population.

Divorce in accordance with the Argentine Civil Marriage Code, as I had the honour to inform your Lordship in the Memorandum inclosed in my despatch of the 16th November last, does not imply the dissolution of the matrimonial bond, but only a separation quoad mensam et thorum. Consequently divorced parties are unable to marry again so long as both remain alive.

I have, &c.
(Signed) F. PAKENHAM.

AUSTRIA.

No. 2.

Sir E. Monson to the Earl of Kimberley.—(Received September 24.)

My Lord,

Vienna, September 18, 1894.

WITH reference to your Lordship's Circular despatch of the 8th ultimo, I have the honour to inclose a Memorandum by Mr. Fraser, giving the latest obtainable statistics of divorce in Austria; later figures than those for 1889 have not yet been published.

I have, &c.
(Signed) EDMUND MONSON.

Inclosure in No. 2.

Statistics of Divorces granted in Austria, 1884 to 1889.

THE population of the whole Austrian Monarchy is given during this period at 22,144,244 souls, but the new Census of the 31st December, 1890, gives an increased population of 23,895,413. Later statistics than those for 1889 have not yet been compiled.

Austrian divorces are divided into three classes, and this division is, with very few exceptions, owing to the religion of the parties; for Catholics cannot be "divorced" for any reason whatsoever in Austria, where their marriages remain indissoluble in the eyes of Austrian civil law as before their Church; excepting in the rare cases in which the Pope assents to "annul" the marriage by a declaration of its invalidity from the beginning. Therefore, Catholics can only be "judicially separated," whereas persons of other confessions may, for the same causes, be "divorced;" and the preponderating population of Catholics in Austria explains the discrepancy in the numbers of each kind. Among the marriages annulled appear also

a few between persons of non-Catholic confessions, whose marriages were declared invalid by the Courts of Law.

Year.			Number of Judicial Separations (almost exclusively among Catholics).	Number of Divorces (among persons of all Confessions, excepting Catholics).	Number of Marriages annulled (chiefly among Catholics).	Total.
1884	..	..	656	65	(23) (13) (26) (17) (23) (13)	744
1885	..	..	654	91		758
1886	..	..	670	90		786
1887	..	..	671	111		799
1888	..	..	671	86		780
1889	..	..	712	108		833

The causes of the Catholic “separations” and of the general “divorces” in 1889 (latest statistics published) were :—

Adultery	..	..	..	..	..	..	20
Condemnation to penal servitude of one of the parties	..	..	..	..	..	..	27
Desertion	..	..	..	..	..	..	38
Leading a disreputable life	..	..	..	..	..	..	59
Conduct or threats dangerous to life or health	..	..	..	..	..	..	14
Habitual ill-treatment	..	..	..	..	..	..	77
Domestic quarrels of constant occurrence (incompatibility of temper)	..	..	..	..	..	..	185
Lasting disease of an infectious nature	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Other causes	..	..	..	..	..	..	23

As some of the separations and divorces were granted for more than one of these several causes, the total appears greater than the actual number granted; and the relatively small number of divorces in proportion to the population—800 among 23,000,000—must be accounted for by the fact that good Catholics will not even go the length of a judicial separation, however urgent the need, and also by the prohibition of another marriage of either or of both the parties, which makes the intervention of the Law Courts superfluous excepting where financial arrangements cannot be agreed to out of Court. So that many more married couples live separate in Austria than appear in these statistics.

BAVARIA AND WÜRTEMBERG.

No. 3.

Mr. Vansittart to the Earl of Kimberley.—(Received September 10.)

My Lord,

Munich, September 6, 1894.

WITH reference to your Lordship's Circular despatch of the 8th ultimo, I have the honour to inclose herewith two tabular Returns, which I have drawn up from official statistics supplied to Her Majesty's Legation, showing the number of divorces granted in Bavaria and Würtemberg, together with the population, in each year during ten consecutive years.

As the Bavarian Government have informed Her Majesty's Legation that they are not yet in possession of statistics relating to divorces granted during the years 1892 and 1893, I have only been able to draw up a Return from the year 1882 to 1891 (the latter year inclusive).

The Return for Würtemberg begins with the year 1881, and ends with 1892 (the latter inclusive).

I trust the inclosed Returns will be found suitable for presentation to Parliament, I have, &c.

(Signed) A. G. VANSITTART.

Inclosure 1 in No. 3.

TABLE I.—Showing the Number of Divorces granted in Bavaria, together with the Population, in each year, beginning from the year 1882 and ending with the year 1891.

Year.				Number of Divorces.	Number of Population.	One Divorcee per population as follows—
1882	..	..	..	218	5,338,946	24,490
1883	..	..	..	243	5,366,030 ^{1708 4}	22,082
1884	..	..	..	245	5,393,114 ^{1708 4}	22,013
1885	..	..	..	245	5,420,199 ^{1708 5}	22,123
1886	..	..	..	238	5,447,284	22,888
1887	..	..	..	240	5,474,369	22,810
1888	..	..	..	255	5,501,454	21,574
1889	..	..	..	256	5,528,539	21,596
1890	..	..	..	233	5,594,982	24,013
1891	..	..	..	308	5,629,938	18,279

The last two official Censuses of the population of Bavaria were taken in the years 1885 and 1890.

Inclosure 2 in No. 3.

TABLE II.—Showing the Number of Divorces granted in Würtemberg, together with the Population, in each year, beginning from the year 1881, and ending with the year 1892.

Year.				Number of Divorces.	Number of Population.	Proportion of Divorces on every 100,000 of the middle, yearly Population.	
						Year.	Proportion.
1881	..	..	..	95	1,975,000	1881	4·81
1882	..	..	..	122	1,979,000	1882	6·16
1883	..	..	..	150	1,983,000	1883	7·56
1884	..	..	..	130	1,988,000	1884	6·54
1885	..	..	..	144	1,995,185	1885	7·22
1886	..	..	..	161	2,002,000	1886	8·04
1887	..	..	..	135	2,014,000	1887	6·70
1888	..	..	..	132	2,024,000	1888	6·52
1889	..	..	..	155	2,030,000	1889	7·64
1890	..	..	..	165	2,036,522	1890	8·11
1891	..	..	..	149	2,042,000	1891	7·30
1892	..	..	..	153	2,048,000	1892	7·47

The last two official Censuses of the population of Würtemberg were taken in the years 1885 and 1890.

It should be mentioned that the numbers of the population given in the above Table have been calculated after counting the births and deaths in each year; but as certain cases of immigration and emigration occur yearly, of which no fixed record seems to be kept, an average cypher has been substituted.

BELGIUM

No. 4.

Sir F. Plunkett to the Earl of Kimberley.—(Received August 20.)

My Lord,

Brussels, August 19, 1894.

IN compliance with the instruction contained in your Lordship's Circular despatch of the 8th instant, I have the honour to transmit herewith a Return, drawn up by Mr. Adam, showing the number of divorces granted, as well as the number of marriages celebrated, in Belgium, together with the population, in each year during the past ten years.

I have, &c.

(Signed) F. R. PLUNKETT.

Inclosure in No. 4.

Return of Population, Marriages, and Divorces in Belgium for each Year from 1884 to 1893.

THE accompanying Table, showing the number of the population on the 31st December of each year, together with a Return of the number of marriages and divorces during the preceding twelve months, in each of the provinces of Belgium, as well as in the whole kingdom, for the ten years period ending the 31st December, 1893, has been compiled from the Statistics published in the "Annuaire Statistique de la Belgique" by the Ministry of the Interior.

The figures for 1893, which would only have appeared in the "Annuaire" for 1894, I owe to the kindness of M. E. Nicolai, Director of Statistics in the Ministry of the Interior.

(Signed) C. F. F. ADAM.

Brussels, August 18, 1894.

RETURN of Population, Marriages, and Divorces in each Province of Belgium, as well as in the whole Kingdom, for each year between January 1884 and December 1893.

	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.	1892.	1893.
Antwerp—										
Population	625,876	639,339	652,061	664,480	676,076	687,699	699,919	713,740	726,233	739,889
Marriages	4,384	4,497	4,759	4,907	4,910	5,036	5,177	5,266	5,321	5,449
Divorces	17	17	15	28	27	30	33	29	32	52
Brabant—										
Population	1,044,324	1,060,053	1,074,765	1,091,083	1,105,317	1,119,160	1,106,158	1,120,976	1,136,827	1,154,126
Marriages	7,460	7,739	7,854	8,599	8,399	8,623	8,760	8,872	9,471	9,483
Divorces	114	133	141	130	170	186	167	189	193	213
West Flanders—										
Population	714,785	721,437	726,242	732,317	736,511	741,837	738,442	744,188	749,291	755,349
Marriages	4,575	4,681	4,455	4,670	4,618	4,753	4,828	5,010	5,155	5,127
Divorces	1	2	5	8	8	9	8	10	11	15
East Flanders—										
Population	915,464	924,273	930,847	939,748	945,896	952,635	949,526	955,520	961,907	970,398
Marriages	5,791	5,839	5,903	6,288	6,285	6,383	6,310	6,382	6,900	6,728
Divorces	17	10	12	19	21	22	18	26	39	35
Hainaut—										
Population	1,021,158	1,029,885	1,034,677	1,041,719	1,048,299	1,058,752	1,048,546	1,058,737	1,065,881	1,072,012
Marriages	7,399	7,413	7,049	7,717	8,064	8,390	8,751	8,871	8,910	8,921
Divorces	24	16	43	31	49	62	64	54	64	74
Liège—										
Population	702,149	710,819	718,656	728,368	738,694	751,005	756,734	771,168	778,724	789,151
Marriages	4,895	4,922	4,868	5,330	5,191	5,712	5,663	5,862	6,020	5,885
Divorces	41	47	57	65	59	56	71	69	74	83
Limburg—										
Population	216,794	218,951	220,658	222,489	223,365	224,474	222,814	223,531	225,000	226,997
Marriages	1,311	1,289	1,209	1,296	1,325	1,313	1,362	1,312	1,414	1,490
Divorces	1	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	5	1
Luxembourg—										
Population	213,313	214,760	216,289	217,447	217,699	218,436	211,711	212,041	212,171	213,155
Marriages	1,260	1,237	1,339	1,305	1,315	1,149	1,250	1,371	1,353	1,395
Divorces	2	3	3	3	5	2	2	8	6	7
Namur—										
Population	331,095	333,761	335,780	337,092	338,186	339,800	335,471	336,543	339,321	341,195
Marriages	2,130	2,293	2,206	2,379	2,320	2,400	2,495	2,503	2,665	2,587
Divorces	4	1	9	7	16	10	8	16	17	17
Total for the Kingdom—										
Population	5,784,958	5,853,278	5,909,975	5,974,743	6,030,043	6,093,798	6,069,321	6,136,444	6,195,355	6,262,272
Marriages	39,205	39,910	39,642	42,491	42,427	43,759	44,596	45,449	47,209	47,065
Divorces	221	230	286	292	356	379	373	402	441	497

DENMARK.

No. 5.

Mr. Scott to the Earl of Kimberley.—(Received August 20.)

My Lord,

Copenhagen, August 19, 1894.

IN reply to your Lordship's despatch of the 8th instant, I have the honour to report that I have not found it possible to obtain a Return showing the number of divorces in Denmark during the last ten years, as no statistics on the subject exist.

I have, &c.

(Signed) CHARLES S. SCOTT.

FRANCE.

No. 6.

The Marquis of Dufferin to the Earl of Kimberley.—(Received February 6.)

My Lord,

Paris, February 4, 1895.

IN accordance with the request contained in your Lordship's Circular despatch of the 8th August last, I have the honour to transmit herewith a Memorandum drawn up by Mr. Charles Hardinge, Second Secretary in Her Majesty's Embassy, containing the desired information respecting divorces in France.

I have, &c.

(Signed) DUFFERIN AND AVA.

Inclosure in No. 6.

Memorandum respecting Divorces in France.

ELEVEN years have now elapsed since the law of divorce was re-established in France, and although statistics are obtainable of the first eight years of this period, the figures for the last three years have not yet reached the Ministry of Justice, and therefore cannot be given. The following Table therefore embraces the period comprised between the 27th July, 1884, and the 31st December, 1891. According to this statement, 45,822 divorce cases have been brought before the Civil Tribunals, and may be distributed as follows:—

				<u>Divorces granted</u>	
In 1884 there were	1,773	applications for divorce		1657	} <i>highest as yet</i>
„ 1885 „	4,650	„ „		4123	
„ 1886 „	4,581	„ „		4005	
„ 1887 „	6,605	„ „		4708	} <i>S. Year Bo</i>
„ 1888 „	6,247	„ „		4786	
„ 1889 „	7,175	„ „		5457	
„ 1890 „	7,456	„ „		5782	
„ 1891 „	7,445	„ „		6184	

making an average of 5,727 divorce suits per annum.

According to the Returns of the census, the population of France in 1886 was 38,218,903, and in 1891 was 38,343,191.

It should be stated that the above figures comprise not only ordinary applications for divorce, but also applications for the conversion of judicial separation into absolute divorce.

Of these 45,822 applications for divorce, decrees were granted in 40,301 cases, only 2,993 applications being rejected, while 2,528 applications were withdrawn.

If the number of divorces granted is compared with the number of marriages during this period, we arrive at the following Table, which may be of interest, as showing that the number of divorces compared with the number of marriages has almost doubled since 1885 :—

14 divorces for 1,000 marriages celebrated in 1885.					
14	"	"	"	"	1886.
20	"	"	"	"	1887.
19	"	"	"	"	1888.
22	"	"	"	"	1889.
24	"	"	"	"	1890.
24	"	"	"	"	1891.

It is also interesting to note that it is generally between the fifth and tenth years of marriage that the greatest number of applications for divorce are made. Few marriages are dissolved in the first year after the union, but, on the other hand, a good many marriages are annulled between the first and fifth years, as may be seen from the accompanying figures :—

Less than 1 year ..	..	..	..	..	3 divorces per 100.
From 1 to 5 years..	..	..	..	..	22 " "
" 5 " 10 " ..	..	..	..	..	38 " "
" 10 " 20 " ..	..	..	..	..	28 " "
" 20 " 30 " ..	..	..	..	..	7 " "
More than 30 years	..	..	..	..	2 " "

It may be added that there have only been five cases of divorce that have occurred after fifty years of marriage, but the number of divorces granted after between forty and fifty years of marriage is relatively high, viz., 126.

It is also a noteworthy fact that inhabitants of towns appear more often in the Divorce Courts than inhabitants of the country, and divorce seems particularly common among the lower classes, 42 per cent. of those connected with the 45,822 divorce cases mentioned above being workmen of every kind—day labourers and charwomen; while those who have least recourse to the Divorce Court are the peasant and servant classes, who only make 7 per cent. and 6 per cent. respectively of the total aggregate of divorce cases. This is specially remarkable, since the peasant class forms nearly half the population of France.

Of the 45,822 applications for divorce, 28,492 were made by the wife and 17,330 by the husband. An analysis of the motives for divorce gives the following results :—

Excesses, cruelty, or severe injuries	..	..	..	..	76 per cent.
Adultery of the wife	..	..	..	..	15 "
" " husband	..	..	..	..	6 "
Various ..	..	..	..	..	3 "

C. H.

Paris, February 4, 1895.

GERMANY.

No. 7.

Sir E. Malet to the Earl of Kimberley.—(Received August 20.)

My Lord,

Berlin, August 17, 1894.

WITH reference to your Lordship's Circular despatch of the 8th instant, directing me to furnish your Lordship with a Return showing the number of divorces granted in Germany, together with the population, in each year during the past ten years, I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith Tables compiled by Mr. Wyndham, showing—

1. The number of divorces pronounced in Germany from 1882 to 1891, with the population in each year.

2. The number of divorces pronounced by each of the District Courts respectively,

for the years 1890 and 1891, and giving the population in each judicial district for the year 1890.

The figures have been kindly furnished by the Statistical Office in Berlin.

I have, &c.

(In the absence of Sir Edward Malet),

(Signed) MARTIN GOSSELIN.

Inclosure 1 in No. 7.

TABLE showing the Number of Divorces pronounced in the Empire of Germany from 1882 to 1891.

Year.	Population (taken in the middle of the Year).	Number of Divorces pronounced.
1882	45,719,000	5,342
1883	46,016,000	5,764
1884	46,336,000	6,047
1885	46,707,000	6,225
1886	47,134,000	6,078
1887	47,630,000	6,357
1888	48,168,000	6,618
1889	48,717,000	6,457
1890	49,241,000	6,220
1891	49,767,000	6,677
Average 1882-91 ..	47,543,000	6,178

Inclosure 2 in No. 7.

TABLE showing the District Courts by which the Divorces were pronounced, with the Number of Divorces in each District, during the years 1890 and 1891, and the Population for each District for the year 1890.

District.	Population (on December 1, 1890).	Number of Divorces.	
		1890.	1891.
Augsburg	954,447	15	23
Bamberg	1,166,165	23	32
Berlin	4,120,577	1,115	1,527
Brunswick	403,773	45	51
Breslau	4,224,458	573	561
Cassel	836,648	32	33
Celle	2,441,033	158	136
Cologne	3,994,341	193	209
Colmar	1,603,506	175	140
Darmstadt	992,883	97	85
Dresden	3,502,684	902	892
Frankfort-on-Main	1,080,198	90	70
Hamburg	914,176	355	354
Hamm	2,974,807	184	187
Jena	1,289,158	186	180
Karlsruhe	1,657,867	117	130
Kiel (and Heligoland)	1,219,523	173	213
Königsberg	1,958,663	347	322
Marienwerder	1,367,974	239	177
Munich	1,537,658	82	106
Naumburg	2,881,968	490	557
Nürnberg	1,208,373	68	85
Oldenburg	318,171	10	11
Posen	1,817,349	161	144
Rostock	676,320	29	45
Stettin	1,520,889	193	196
Stuttgart	2,036,522	123	149
Zweibrücken	728,339	45	62
Total	49,428,470	6,220	6,777

GREECE.

No. 8

Mr. Egerton to the Earl of Kimberley.—(Received January 30.)

My Lord,

Athens, January 23, 1894.

IN reply to your Lordship's Circular despatch of the 8th August last, I have the honour to transmit herewith the following information in regard to the number of divorces granted in Greece during the ten years from 1884 to 1893, which has just been furnished to me by the Greek Government :—

In 1884 ..	..	..	..	88 divorces were granted.
„ 1885 ..	..	..	..	73 „ „
„ 1886 ..	..	..	..	65 „ „
„ 1887 ..	..	..	..	74 „ „
„ 1888 ..	..	..	..	66 „ „
„ 1889 ..	..	..	..	93 „ „
„ 1890 ..	..	..	..	81 „ „
„ 1891 ..	..	..	..	78 „ „
„ 1892 ..	..	..	..	67 „ „
„ 1893 ..	..	..	..	103 „ „

the total amounting to 788.

The population of Greece at the last census, in 1889, was 2,187,208. No annual Returns are made, but the ordinary increase of population is believed to be something over 1 per cent per annum.

I append a Table, furnished by the Greek Government, showing the number of divorces granted before the different provincial Tribunals.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDWIN H. EGERTON.

Inclosure in No. 8.

STATEMENT of the number of Divorces granted by various Provincial Tribunals in Greece.

	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.	1892.	1893.	Totals.
Athens.. ..	35	18	22	19	15	30	33	21	20	38	251
Syra	8	11	8	6	1	7	7	8	6	8	70
Chaleis	1	2	1	3	2	4	2	1	4	3	23
Lamia	1	1	2	2	2	1	2	..	..	2	13
Parnassis	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	2	1	5
Nauplia	3	4	4	3	3	4	3	3	3	1	31
Tripolitza	1	1	..	..	..	3	1	..	..	..	6
Kalamata	1	2	1	3	1	1	3	2	2	2	18
Kyparissia	2	1	..	..	..	5	2	2	2	3	17
Sparta.. ..	3	1	2	5	2	4	4	3	..	4	28
Patras	4	8	1	8	7	5	5	7	4	6	55
Missolonghi	1	1	..	1	..	2	1	2	3	2	13
Elea	3	2	3	2	5	..	1	3	..	..	19
Santa Maura	..	1	..	..	1	..	2	1	1	1	7
Zante	10	6	6	11	8	7	2	5	5	6	66
Corfu	6	5	1	4	6	6	3	7	7	7	52
Cephalonia	7	2	9	4	6	4	5	5	3	7	52
Arta	..	3	3	..	1	..	1	2	..	1	11
Larissa.. ..	..	..	..	..	3	2	1	..	..	2	8
Trikkala	..	..	1	1	1	6	1	4	2	3	19
Volo	1	4	1	2	2	2	1	2	3	6	24
Karditza	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals	88	73	65	74	66	93	81	78	67	103	788

GRAND DUCHY OF LUXEMBURG.

No. 9.

Mr. Bland to the Earl of Kimberley.—(Received September 17.)

My Lord,

The Hague, September 15, 1894.

IN compliance with the instructions contained in your Lordship's Circular despatch of the 8th ultimo, I have the honour to transmit herewith a Return showing the number of divorces granted in the Grand Duchy of Luxemburg, together with the population, in each year during the past ten years.

I have, &c.

(Signed) GODFREY D. BLAND.

Inclosure in No. 9.

STATISTICS relative to Number of Divorces and Population in the Grand Duchy of Luxemburg for the last ten Years.

Year.				Number of Divorces.	Population.
1884	..	..	..	2	210,511 (Census of 1880)
1885	..	..	..	2	214,635
1886	..	..	..	3	"
1887	..	..	..	3	"
1888	..	..	..	3	"
1889	..	..	..	3	"
1890	..	..	..	3	211,481
1891	..	..	..	4	"
1892	..	..	..	4	"
1893	..	..	..	1	"

MEXICO.

No. 10.

Mr. Dering to the Earl of Kimberley.—(Received February 7.)

My Lord,

Mexico, January 21, 1895.

WITH reference to the Circular instruction addressed to Mr. Consul Carden, then in charge of Her Majesty's Legation on the 9th August last, requesting to be furnished with Returns as to divorces in the Mexican Republic during the last ten years in proportion to the population, I requested the Mexican Minister for Foreign Affairs, under date of the 16th instant, to enable me to furnish Her Majesty's Government with the above information, in order to be presented as a Return to Parliament.

I have now the honour to forward to your Lordship copy and translation of a note which I have this day received in reply from M. Mariscal, informing me that, according to the laws of Mexico, divorce is not recognized in the territory of the Republic.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HENRY NEVILL DERING.

Inclosure in No. 10.

Señor Mariscal to Mr. Dering.

(Translation.)

M. le Ministre,

Foreign Office, Mexico, January 16, 1895.

IN reply to your Excellency's courteous note of to-day, referring to any cases of divorce granted in Mexico during the past ten years, I have the honour to inform you that marriage is governed in the Republic by a Federal law which does not permit divorce *a vinculo*.

I avail, &c.

(Signed) IGNO. MARISCAL.

NETHERLANDS.

No. 11.

Sir H. Rumbold to the Earl of Kimberley.—(Received August 20.)

My Lord,

The Hague, August 16, 1894.

IN compliance with the instructions contained in your Lordship's Circular despatch of the 8th instant, I have the honour to transmit herewith a Return showing the number of divorces granted in the Netherlands, together with the population, in each of the years from 1883 to 1892.

The statistics for 1893 have not yet been published.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HORACE RUMBOLD.

Inclosure in No. 11.

STATISTICS as to Divorce and Population from 1883 to 1892.

Years.			Divorces.		Separations.		Population.	
			Total No.	Per 1,000 Married Couples.	Total No.	Per 1,000 Married Couples.	Years.	Number.
1883	..	..	189	0·27	82	0·12	1883	4,225,065
1884	..	..	196	0·28	95	0·13	1884	4,278,272
1885	..	..	261	0·37	78	0·11	1885	4,336,012
1886	..	..	315	0·44	103	0·14	1886	4,390,857
1887	..	..	333	0·46	105	0·14	1887	4,450,870
1888	..	..	409	0·56	133	0·17	1888	4,505,932
1889	..	..	360	0·50	121	0·16	1889	4,548,596
1890	..	..	383	0·52	100	0·13	1890	4,564,565
1891	..	..	414	0·55	117	0·16	1891	4,621,744
1892	..	..	354	0·47	120	0·16	1892	4,669,576

ROUMANIA.

No. 12.

Mr. Townley to the Earl of Kimberley.—(Received November 6.)

My Lord,

Bucharest, November 3, 1894.

WITH reference to your Lordship's Circular despatch of the 8th August last, I have the honour to transmit herewith a copy of a Table which has been kindly communicated to me by the Roumanian Minister of Justice, showing the number of divorces applied for and granted or refused in this country from 1881 to 1890. Later statistics are not available.

It is somewhat difficult to arrive at an accurate estimate of the population of Roumania, as no Census has been taken in this country since 1860, and the various endeavours to do so since that date have not succeeded. I am informed, however, by the Director of the Statistical Department that he instituted researches in 1884 which enabled him to estimate the population at 5,000,000, and he calculates from the annual Returns of births and deaths that the population must now amount to 5,600,000 souls.

I have, &c.

(Signed) WALTER TOWNLEY.

Inclosure in No. 12.

GENERAL Statement of the Applications for Divorce tried by the Roumanian Courts of Justice during the period from 1881 to 1890.

Year.	Applications for Divorce made during the year.	Applications for Divorce tried during the year.	Result of Applications.			
			Granted.	Refused.	Adjourned.	Total.
1881	1,263	913	403	194	316	913
1882	1,118	874	469	181	224	874
1883	1,401	950	494	166	290	950
1884	1,480	1,218	634	197	387	1,218
1885	1,527	1,195	629	198	368	1,195
1886	1,283	1,230	658	198	374	1,230
1887	1,578	1,127	722	163	242	1,127
1888	1,588	1,155	758	158	239	1,155
1889	2,210	1,414	865	238	311	1,414
1890	1,916	1,389	762	211	416	1,389

RUSSIA.

No. 13.

Sir F. Lascelles to the Earl of Kimberley.—(Received October 1.)

My Lord,

St. Petersburg, September 21, 1894.

WITH reference to your Lordship's Circular despatch of the 8th ultimo, requesting me to obtain, if practicable, certain information relative to the Laws of Divorce in Russia, I have the honour to state that no statistics on the subject have been published in this country up to the present date.

I have, &c.

(Signed) FRANK C. LASCELLES.

SAXONY.

No. 14.

Mr. Strachey to the Earl of Kimberley.—(Received October 2.)

My Lord,

Dresden, September 29, 1894.

REPLYING to the circular of the 8th August, I have the honour to state that the available statistics of divorce in Saxony give the following figures :—

Divorces in 1890	..	..	..	..	..	902
„ 1891	..	..	..	..	..	892
„ 1892	..	..	..	..	..	836
„ 1893	..	..	..	..	..	935

Population of the kingdom according to the Census of 1890, 3,502,684.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. STRACHEY.

SERVIA.

No. 15.

Mr. Fane to the Earl of Kimberley.—(Received September 26.)

My Lord,

Belgrade, September 22, 1894.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch of the 8th ultimo, I have the honour to transmit herewith a Return showing the number of divorces in Servia during the years 1882-92 inclusive, with the exception of the year 1885, for which no official statistics are forthcoming.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDMUND FANE.

Inclosure in No. 15.

STATISTICS of Marriages dissolved in Servia between the years 1882 and 1892.

Year.			Number.		Number of Marriages—			Proportion of Marriages dissolved.	
			Population.	Marriages solemnized.	Dissolved.	Declared void.	Total.	Per 10,000 Inhabitants.	Per 1,000 Inhabitants.
1882	..	..	1,814,460	22,008	223	32	255	1·41	11·59
1883	..	.	1,857,898	22,097	269	23	292	1·57	13·22
1884	..	..	1,901,336	20,370	325	41	366	1·92	17·97
1885	..	..	1,944,774	17,107	(?)	(?)	(?)		
1886	..	.	1,988,210	23,326	155	19	174	0·88	7·46
1887	..	..	2,031,640	22,555	297	19	316	1·56	14·01
1888	..	..	2,075,086	22,737	357	25	382	1·84	16·80
1889	..	..	2,118,524	21,753	284	27	311	1·47	14·30
1890	..	..	2,161,961	21,555	193	15	208	0·96	9·65
1891	..	..	2,202,350	23,196	173	8	181	0·82	7·80
1892	..	..	2,222,048	21,018	306	14	320	1·44	15·22
Average ..			2,028,344	21,611	258	22	280	1·38	12·96

SPAIN.

No. 16.

Sir G. Bonham to the Earl of Kimberley.—(Received August 20.)

My Lord,

Madrid, August 17, 1894.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch of the 8th instant, in which a Return is asked for showing the number of divorces which have taken place in Spain during the past ten years, I have the honour to state that I am informed by the Minister of Grace and Justice, to whom I made an application, that he is unable to comply with my request, as no statistics relating to divorce have been drawn up in this country.

I have, &c.

(Signed) G. F. BONHAM.

SWEDEN AND NORWAY.

No. 17.

Sir S. St. John to the Earl of Kimberley.—(Received September 28.)

My Lord,

Stockholm, September 24, 1894.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Circular despatch of the 8th August, requesting me to obtain and furnish a Return showing the number of divorces granted in Norway and Sweden, together with the population, in each year during the past ten years.

I transmit herewith the statistics required.

I have, &c.

(Signed) SPENSER ST. JOHN,

Inclosure in No. 17.

RETURN of Divorces in Sweden and Norway.

Year.	Sweden.		Norway.	
	Population.	Divorces.	Population.	Divorces.
1883	4,603,595	218	1,938,000	7
1884	4,644,448	241	1,954,000	8
1885	4,682,769	229	1,974,000	11
1886	4,717,189	226	1,979,000	6
1887	4,734,901	233	1,980,000	12
1888	4,748,257	252	1,986,000	14
1889	4,774,409	240	2,000,917	13
1890	4,784,981	296	2,015,000	22
1891	4,802,751	276	2,022,000	39
1892	4,806,865	316	2,032,000	82
1893	Not yet known.			

SWITZERLAND.

No. 18.

Mr F. R. St. John to the Earl of Kimberley.—(Received August 27.)

My Lord,

Berne, August 23, 1894.

IN conformity with the instructions contained in your Lordship's Circular despatch of the 8th instant, I have the honour to forward herewith a Return showing the amount of the population of Switzerland in each of the ten years ended 1892, together with the corresponding number of marriages and divorces, which latter, as your Lordship will observe, show an almost invariable tendency to diminish.

I have, &c.

(Signed) F. R. ST. JOHN.

Inclosure in No. 18.

POPULATION of Switzerland during the ten years from 1883 to 1892, both inclusive,
with Returns of Divorce Cases.

Year.	Population.	Judgments pronounced.	Applications for Divorce rejected.	Legal Separations.	Divorces.	
					Number.	Per 1,000 of existing Marriages.
1883.. ..	2,848,445	1,095	82	115	898	1.93
1884.. ..	2,861,238	1,118	107	104	907	1.94
1885.. ..	2,874,038	1,159	122	117	920	1.96
1886.. ..	2,891,785	1,139	103	137	899	1.90
1887.. ..	2,902,553	1,128	121	82	925	1.95
1888.. ..	2,913,277	1,030	110	79	841	1.76
1889.. ..	2,924,973	1,069	114	90	865	1.80
1890.. ..	2,937,348	1,066	108	78	880	1.82
1891.. ..	2,949,723	1,046	96	73	877	1.84
1892.. ..	2,962,098	1,036	83	72	881	1.83

UNITED STATES.

No. 19.

Mr. Goschen to the Earl of Kimberley.—(Received November 5.)

My Lord.

Washington, October 24, 1894.

WITH reference to your Lordship's Circular despatch of the 8th August last, I have the honour to transmit herewith a Report on the subject of divorces in the United States, which has been drawn up in this Embassy by Mr. Spring-Rice.

I regret that it has been found impracticable to obtain the statistics for the past ten years desired by the House of Commons.

As explained in the annexed Report, full Returns could not be obtained for all the States without a very considerable expenditure of time and money, as they would entail a search of the records of some 2,700 separate Courts.

Annexed to the Report are despatches from Her Majesty's Consuls at Philadelphia and Boston, and from Her Majesty's Acting Consul-General at New York, who have taken great pains to obtain the information desired.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. E. GOSCHEN.

Inclosure in No. 19.

REPORT RESPECTING DIVORCES IN THE UNITED STATES.]

Information required.

THE House of Commons asked for a Return "showing the number of divorces granted in the United States, together with the population, in each year during the past ten years."

Information supplied by the Census and Labour Commission of the United States.

The Federal Government is not in possession of any data later than that collected at the several decennial Census periods, and no statement can be given as to the population for the intervening years.

In 1890 the population was 62,622,250, against 50,155,783 in 1880.

In the Census of 1880 no statistics were compiled regarding conjugal condition.

The Census of 1890 showed the following results :—

	Number.	Per cent.
Single	37,129,564	59·29
Married	22,331,424	35·66
Widowed	2,970,052	4·74
Divorced	120,996	0·20
Unknown	70,214	0·11
	62,632,250	100·00

These figures take no account of the widowed and divorced who have remarried.

The number of divorced men was 49,101, or 0·15 per cent.; the number of divorced women was 71,895, being 0·24 per cent., or considerably more than the proportion of males. This probably indicates that divorced men have remarried to a greater extent than divorced women.

Divorced persons among the aggregate population represented 0·54 per cent. of the married people, that is, there was 1 divorced person to 185 married.

Divorce was more common among the native white of native parentage than among the total population, the proportion to the number of married people being for the United States 0·61 per cent. The native white of foreign parentage show a smaller proportion, 0·50 per cent., and the foreign white a still smaller proportion, 0·34 per cent., which is attributed to the fact that the foreign element includes many Irish and Canadian Catholics. Among the negro population the divorced are found to be more prevalent than among any of the other classes. The proportion of divorced to married among the negro element was 0·67 per cent.

In 1889 the Commissioner of Labour, in obedience to a Resolution of Congress, published a Report on marriage and divorce in the United States for the years 1867 to 1886.

It results from this Report that the number of divorces granted was as follows :—

Year.	Number.	Year.	Number.
1867.. ..	9,937	1877	15,687
1868.. ..	10,150	1878	16,089
1869.. ..	10,939	1879	17,083
1870.. ..	10,962	1880	19,663
1871.. ..	11,586	1881	20,762
1872.. ..	12,390	1882	22,112
1873.. ..	13,156	1883	23,198
1874.. ..	13,989	1884	22,994
1875.. ..	14,212	1885	23,472
1876.. ..	14,800	1886	25,535

Thus, from 9,937 divorces granted in the United States in 1867, the total has reached, for 1886, 25,535, an increase of nearly 157 per cent. in twenty years. The population of the United States probably increased about 60 per cent. for the same period.

In 1870 the population was stated at 38,558,371, and in 1880 at 50,155,783. Thus, for these two years, the only years for which we have Returns of the population of the United States, the proportion of divorces to population increased from 0.028 per cent. to 0.039 per cent.

Information from the various States.

Great difficulty has been experienced by Her Majesty's Consuls in obtaining the information desired in the several States. The Labour Commissioner, in compiling his Report for the years above enumerated, found that there were about 2,700 counties in the United States, and that as a rule each county has its Court records containing the divorce entries. It was necessary, therefore, to send special agents to examine these records, entailing great labour and expense. It has been found impossible, for the most part, for Her Majesty's Consuls to adopt a similar procedure, and statistics can only be appended for the States of Ohio and Massachusetts, and for the Consular district of New York, including the States of New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Rhode Island, and Delaware.

Acting Consul-General Fraser to Mr. Goschen.

Sir,

New York, October 17, 1894.

In compliance with the request contained in the second paragraph of your despatch of the 1st ultimo, I have the honour to transmit, herewith inclosed, a Return showing the number of divorces granted, together with the population in this Consular district, for the past ten years.

I should add that the task of obtaining the information given in the Return referred to was an exceedingly laborious one, in consequence of there being no distinction made between divorce and other Judgments in the records of the numerous Courts in which divorces are granted in the States of this Consular district, and consequently each Judgment had to be separately examined, which took weeks of continuous hard work.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. FRASER.

RETURN showing the Number of Divorces granted, together with the Population, in the Consular District of New York, comprising the States of New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Rhode Island, and Delaware, for the ten years ending 1893.

Year.	New York.		New Jersey.		Connecticut.		Rhode Island.		Delaware.	
	No. of Divorces.	Population.	No. of Divorces.	Population.	No. of Divorces.	Population.	No. of Divorces.	Population.	No. of Divorces.	Population.
1884	✓ 953	5,448,863	220	1,252,171	360	672,111	266	298,733	11	155,360
1885	✓ 936	5,540,361	213	1,278,033	383	684,468	227	304,284	41	157,458
1886	✓ 1,066	5,631,859	231	1,311,413	387	696,825	257	312,506	49	159,673
1887	1,262	5,723,357	240	1,344,793	387	709,182	248	320,728	48	161,822
1888	1,176	5,814,855	269	1,378,173	430	721,539	224	328,950	10	164,235
1889	1,192	5,906,353	258	1,411,553	536	733,896	274	337,172	17	166,347
1890	1,207	5,997,853	232	1,444,933	437	746,258	244	345,506	15	168,493
1891	1,300	6,255,599	311	1,483,467	475	761,172	275	353,671	19	169,162
1892	1,376	6,513,344	278	1,522,000	500	776,086	263	361,836	18	169,831
1893	1,476	6,690,842	292	1,628,600	390	791,000	278	370,000	20	170,500

Consul Clipperton to Mr. Goschen.

Sir,

Philadelphia, September 28, 1894.

I BEG to inclose herewith statistics as to divorces granted in Ohio, and the number of marriages each year from 1865 to 1893 inclusive.

I regret that I cannot give you, as you request, the population of Ohio in each year during the past ten years, but I inclose herewith a Table giving the population of the State by counties, compiled from the last Federal Census. The State has no means of ascertaining its population except by the decennial Federal Census.

I have, &c.

(Signed) ROBT. CHAS. CLIPPERTON.

POPULATION of Ohio, by Counties, 1890.

Adams	26,093	Logan	27,386
Allen	40,644	Lorain	40,295
Ashland	22,223	Lucas	102,296
Ashtabula	43,655	Madison	20,057
Athens	85,194	Mahoning	55,979
Auglaize	28,100	Marion	24,727
Belmont	57,413	Medina	21,742
Brown	29,899	Meigs	29,813
Butler	48,597	Mercer	27,220
Carroll	17,566	Miami	39,754
Champaign	26,980	Monroe	25,175
Clark	52,277	Montgomery	100,852
Clermont	33,553	Morgan	19,143
Clinton	24,240	Morrow	18,120
Columbiana	59,029	Muskingum	51,210
Coshocton	26,703	Noble	20,753
Crawford	31,927	Ottawa	21,974
Cuyahoga	309,970	Paulding	25,932
Darke	42,961	Perry	31,151
Defiance	25,769	Pickaway	26,959
Delaware	27,189	Pike	17,482
Erie	35,462	Portage	27,868
Fairfield	33,939	Preble	23,421
Fayette	22,309	Putnam	30,188
Franklin	124,087	Richland	38,072
Fulton	22,023	Ross	39,454
Gallia	27,005	Sandusky	30,617
Geauga	13,489	Scioto	35,377
Greene	29,820	Seneca	40,869
Guernsey	28,645	Shelby	24,707
Hamilton	374,573	Stark	84,170
Hancock	42,563	Summit	54,089
Hardin	28,939	Trumbull	42,373
Harrison	20,830	Tuscarawas	46,618
Henry	25,080	Union	22,860
Highland	29,048	Van Wert	29,671
Hocking	22,658	Vinton	16,045
Holmes	21,139	Warren	25,468
Huron	31,949	Washington	42,380
Jackson	28,408	Wayne	39,005
Jefferson	39,415	Williams	24,897
Knox	27,600	Wood	44,392
Lake	18,235	Wyandot	21,722
Lawrence	39,556		
Licking	43,279		
		Total	3,672,316

TABLE showing the Number and Causes of Divorces granted; the Total Number of Divorces granted; and the Number of Marriages each year, from 1865 to 1893, inclusive.

Year.	Adultery.		Absence and neglect.		Cruelty.		Drunkenness.		Fraud.		Miscellaneous.		Total.		Grand Total.	Marriages.
	Granted husband.	Granted wife.	Granted husband.	Granted wife.	Granted husband.	Granted wife.	Granted husband.	Granted wife.	Granted husband.	Granted wife.	Granted husband.	Granted wife.	Granted husband.	Granted wife.		
1865*	254		230		199		48		18		188		..	..	837	22,198
1866	384		394		134		79		30		133		..	..	1,169	30,479
1867	317		417		132		73		10		26		..	..	975	29,230
1868	233		365		114		66		9		60		..	..	847	28,231
1869	249		460		156		84		13		41		..	..	1,003	24,910
1870	267		451		156		79		23		32		..	..	1,008	25,459
1871	127	150	139	306	19	153	9	83	11	16	18	46	323	754	1,077	23,627
1872	106	129	124	319	20	140	9	113	5	10	16	35	280	746	1,026	26,303
1873	139	126	154	355	15	159	9	126	6	6	6	24	328	796	1,224	26,460
1874	160	119	161	359	12	180	12	115	8	8	6	19	359	800	1,159	26,678
1875	161	143	185	420	13	186	9	112	7	9	6	38	381	918	1,299	23,489
1876	135	165	176	377	31	191	13	111	10	12	7	8	372	864	1,236	26,183
1877†	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	394	895	1,289	25,156
1878	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	428	1,004	1,432	25,796
1879	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	425	1,047	1,472	26,399
1880	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	498	1,080	1,578	27,805
1881	192	165	243	584	24	269	10	127	7	10	12	30	488	1,185	1,673	28,566
1882	186	165	278	648	22	265	6	168	11	7	12	38	515	1,291	1,806	30,528
1883	192	177	288	718	19	288	11	182	5	11	13	61	528	1,437	1,965	31,994
1884	180	122	211	661	41	283	10	145	11	15	5	57	458	1,283	1,741	28,720
1885	156	160	235	608	31	233	11	142	6	10	8	54	447	1,207	1,654	28,773
1886	138	134	248	659	29	219	7	118	10	16	9	46	441	1,192	1,633	28,633
1887	155	130	277	635	33	278	14	127	15	12	11	63	505	1,245	1,750	29,180
1888	159	144	332	749	27	280	11	162	6	11	13	59	548	1,405	1,953	30,265
1889	158	165	384	917	35	354	9	172	11	8	13	40	610	1,660	2,270	32,818
1890	202	155	359	932	28	343	19	194	16	12	10	36	634	1,672	2,306	33,255
1891	245	155	388	959	44	442	25	181	9	14	22	60	733	1,811	2,544	33,800
1892	186	186	407	990	53	519	27	258	15	14	15	67	703	2,084	2,737	34,755
1893	239	183	407	1,025	84	534	23	335	13	19	11	40	777	2,136	2,913	35,071

* The number of divorces granted husband and wife respectively were not separately stated in the Annual Reports issued from this office from 1865 to 1870, inclusive.

† The causes of divorce granted husband and wife, respectively, were not given in the Reports from 1877 to 1880, inclusive.

Consul Yeats Brown to Mr. Goschen.

Sir, Boston, September 17, 1894.
 With reference to your Circular despatch of the 1st instant, I am unable to procure a Return of divorces granted in each year during the last ten years, but I have the honour to inclose a short Report on divorces in the State, in which, among other things, I am able to show in some detail the divorces granted in the twenty years ending with 1890.

I have, &c.
 (Signed) M. YEATS BROWN.

Divorces.

The Statute causes for which divorce from the bonds of matrimony may be granted in Massachusetts are as follows:—

1. Adultery.
2. Impotency.
3. Sentence to imprisonment with hard labour for five years or more.
4. Desertion for three consecutive years next prior to the filing of the libel.
5. Separation without consent, refusal to cohabit, and union for three years with a religious sect or society holding the relation of husband and wife unlawful.
6. Extreme cruelty.

7. Gross and confirmed habits of intoxication.
8. Cruel and abusive treatment.
9. Neglect to provide.
10. Gross and confirmed drunkenness from opium or other drugs.

Of these causes, the one relating to union with a religious sect holding the relation of husband and wife unlawful is practically inoperative, since no divorces have been granted upon this ground for the past twenty-three years at least.

A marriage may be annulled and declared void, as provided by the Statutes, in consequence of violation of the provisions of the laws concerning marriage (Public Statutes, cap. 145, sec. 11).

The statistics with regard to divorces in Massachusetts for the period of twenty years ending with 1890, gathered from the 49th Annual Report of Births, Marriages, and Deaths, are as follows:—

DIVORCES granted in twenty years ending 1890.

For Adultery.		For Desertion.		For Intoxication.		For all other Causes.		Total.		Grand Total.
Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	
1,391	1,517	1,941	3,341	161	1,267	32	1,765	3,525	7,890	11,415

The population of the State according to the Census of 1890 was 2,238,943.

From the same official Report it appears that the ratio of divorces to marriages in the twenty years ending with 1890 was as follows:—

Years.					Number of Marriages.	Number of Divorces.	Ratio of Divorces to Marriages.
1871	..	..	..	..	15,746	325	1 to 48·4
1872	..	..	..	..	16,142	343	1 „ 47·1
1873	..	..	..	..	16,437	449	1 „ 36·6
1874	..	..	..	..	15,564	647	1 „ 24·1
1875	..	..	..	..	13,663	577	1 „ 23·6
1876	..	..	..	..	12,749	527	1 „ 24·2
1877	..	..	..	..	12,758	553	1 „ 23·1
1878	..	..	..	..	12,893	600	1 „ 21·4
1879	..	..	..	..	13,802	546	1 „ 23·4
1880	..	..	..	..	15,538	580	1 „ 26·8
1881	..	..	..	..	16,768	409	1 „ 40·9
1882	..	..	..	..	17,684	515	1 „ 34·3
1883	..	..	..	..	18,194	655	1 „ 27·8
1884	..	..	..	..	17,333	614	1 „ 28·2
1885	..	..	..	..	17,052	646	1 „ 26·4
1886	..	..	..	..	18,018	601	1 „ 30·0
1887	..	..	..	..	19,533	796	1 „ 24·5
1888	..	..	..	..	19,739	624	1 „ 30·6
1889	..	..	..	..	20,397	756	1 „ 26·9
1890	..	..	..	..	20,838	654	1 „ 31·9
Totals and Averages					330,848	11,415	1 to 29·9

Of the whole number of libels for divorce disposed of in 1890, 87·4 per cent. were not contested. The figures for other years are not quoted.

The same Report gives statistics relative to the length of married life of libellants for divorce for the period of nine years ending with 1890. The number of suits entered during this period was 6,365, and the average length of married life of those who entered their suits was 11·32 years.

The average for the different causes was as follows:—

For adultery, 10·09 years; for cruel and abusive treatment, 10·16 years; for desertion, 12·03 years; for extreme cruelty, 10·21 years; for imprisonment, 11·52 years; for impotency, 8·5; intoxication, 11·92 years; non-support, 12·43 years; nullity of marriage, 6·6 years.

Of the whole number of libellants, 29, or 46 of 1 per cent., had been married less than six months; 27, or 4 of 1 per cent., from six months to one year; 979, or 15·4 per cent., from one to five years; 2,052, or 32·2 per cent., from five to ten years; 2,110, or 28·4 per cent., from ten to twenty years; 644, or 10·1 per cent., from twenty to thirty years; 181, or 2·8 per cent., over thirty years; and in ten cases the length of married life was not stated.

(Signed) M. YEATS BROWN.

No. 20.

Mr. Goschen to the Earl of Kimberley.—(Received November 29.)

My Lord,

Washington, November 20, 1894.

WITH reference to my despatch of the 24th ultimo, I have the honour to forward herewith, for your Lordship's information, a Return of the divorces and population, which I have received from Her Majesty's Acting Consul at New Orleans.

I have, &c.

(Signed) W. E. GOSCHEN.

Inclosure 1 in No. 20.

Acting Consul Donnelly to Mr. Goschen.

Sir,

New Orleans, November 7, 1894.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge receipt of your Circular despatch of the 1st September, requesting me to forward "a Return showing the number of divorces granted, together with the population, in each year during the past ten years."

The only way of obtaining the required particulars, as regards the number of divorces in the ten years from 1880 to 1890, is by correspondence with the Clerks of the State Courts of ordinary jurisdiction in this Consular district; these would number several hundreds, and I doubt if the information could, even then, be procured, except by payment of the fees for the necessary search, which would, necessarily, amount to a considerable sum.

As regards population, the last Census taken was in 1890—none taken for the intermediate years between 1880 and 1890, or since 1890 to the present year.

I annex a Return giving such particulars as I have been able to get.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JAMES A. DONNELLY.

A RETURN, as far as can be ascertained, showing Population, by Census Report of years 1880 and 1890, of the five States of this Consular District; also the total Number of Divorces granted from 1867 to 1886, and in each year from 1880 to 1886 inclusive.

States.	Population.*			Total Number from 1867 to 1886.	Divorces granted.†							Remarks.		
	1880.	1890.	Percentage* of Gain.		Yearly from 1880 to 1886 inclusive.						Total for Seven Years.			
					1880.	1881.	1882.	1883.	1884.	1885.			1886.	
Louisiana	..	939,946	1,118,587	19	1,697	109	112	94	157	143	168	197	980	
Florida	..	269,493	391,422	45.24	2,128	149	153	174	200	158	201	252	1,287‡	
Alabama	..	1,262,505	1,513,017	19.84	5,204	300	413	395	486	413	515	662	3,184	
Mississippi	..	1,131,597	1,289,600	13.96	5,040	429	421	393	449	475	482	504	3,153	
Arkansas	..	802,525	1,128,179	40.57	6,041	464	510	422	497	589	582	646	3,660	

RETURN of the Number of Divorces in Foreign
Countries during the last Ten Years.

PART I.—FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

*Presented to the House of Commons by Command
of Her Majesty, in pursuance of their Address
dated July 30, 1894.*

LONDON :

PRINTED BY HARRISON AND SONS.

DIVORCES (FOREIGN COUNTRIES AND BRITISH COLONIES).

FURTHER RETURN to an Address of the Honourable The House of Commons,
dated 30 July 1894 ;—*for*,

“RETURN of the Number of DIVORCES granted in each of the British Colonies and Possessions, and in each of the principal Foreign Countries, together with the Population, in each Year during the past Ten Years.”

PART II.—BRITISH COLONIES.

Colonial Office, }
August 1895. }

R. H. MEADE.

(*Mr. Henniker Heaton.*)

Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed,
30 August 1895.

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RETURN of the Number of DIVORCES granted in each of the British Colonies and Possessions, and in each of the principal Foreign Countries, together with the Population, in each Year during the past Ten Years.

PART II.—BRITISH COLONIES.

— No. 1. —

The Marquess of *Ripon* to the Governors of Colonies under Responsible Government.

(Circular.)

Sir,

Downing-street, 25 August 1894.

I HAVE the honour to inform you that an Address has been presented by the House of Commons to Her Majesty for a Return of the Number of Divorces granted in each of the British Colonies and Possessions in each year during the past 10 years ; and I have to request that you will be good enough to furnish me, at your earliest convenience, with a Memorandum giving the information desired in this Return, so far as it relates to the Colony under your government.

I have, &c.
Ripon.

NEWFOUNDLAND.

— No. 2. —

NEWFOUNDLAND.

Sir *F. B. T. Carter* to the Marquess of *Ripon*.

(Received 15 October 1894.)

My Lord Marquess,

Government House, St. John's,
1 October 1894.

WITH reference to your Lordship's Circular Despatch of the 25th August last, asking to be informed as to the number of divorces granted in this Colony during the past 10 years, I have the honour to inform you that there is no law relating to divorce in force in this Colony.

I have, &c.
F. B. T. Carter,
Administrator.

NATAL.

NATAL.

— No. 3. —

Sir *W. F. Hely-Hutchinson* to the Marquess of *Ripon*.

(Received 6 November 1894.)

Government House, Pietermaritzburg,
Natal, 9 October 1894.

My Lord,

IN reply to your Lordship's Circular Despatch of the 25th of August last, I have the honour to transmit herewith a return showing the number of divorces granted in this Colony in each year during the 10 years ended 31st December 1893.

Divorces under Native law, not being dissolutions of marriages recognised by any European law, are not included in the return.

I have, &c.
Walter Hely-Hutchinson.

Enclosure in No. 3.

RETURN showing the Number of Divorces granted in *Natal* during the period of
Ten Years from 1884 to 1893.

Year.	Number of Cases.	Year.	Number of Cases.
1884 - - -	18	1890 - - -	2
1885 - - -	7	1891 - - -	2
1886 - - -	7	1892 - - -	10
1887 - - -	5	1893 - - -	4
1888 - - -	5		
1889 - - -	3	TOTAL - -	63

5 October 1894.

W. Broome,
Registrar Supreme Court, Natal.

CAPE COLONY.

— No. 4. —

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE

Sir *W. G. Cameron* to the Marquess of *Ripon*.

(Received 26 November 1894.)

Government House, Cape Town,
7 November 1894.

My Lord Marquess,

I HAVE the honour to enclose, for your Lordship's information, with reference to your Circular Despatch of 25th August, a copy of a Minute from Ministers on the subject of the number of divorces granted in the Colony.

I have, &c.

W. G. Cameron, General,
Administrator and High Commissioner.

Enclosure in No. 4.

From Ministers, Cape Town, to his Excellency the Administrator,
Cape Town.

Prime Minister's Office, Cape Town,
6 November 1894.

IN acknowledging the Minute of the 29th September of his Excellency the Officer Administering the Government, Ministers have the honour to transmit herewith a return of the number of divorces granted in this Colony in each year during the past 10 years.

J. Gordon Sprigg.

NUMBER of Divorces granted in the Colony of the *Cape of Good Hope* during the Ten Years, 1884 to 1893, inclusive, by the Supreme Court, the Eastern Districts Court, and the High Court, respectively.

	1884.	1885.	1886.	1887.	1888.	1889.	1890.	1891.	1892.	1893.	Totals.
Supreme Court -	21	25	21	21	18	25	27	29	37	46	270
Eastern Districts Court -	26	28	30	16	20	15	26	26	32	26	255
High Court	1	1	1	3	6	2	8	5	7	12	46
TOTAL for the Colony } in each Year - - }	48	54	52	40	44	42	61	60	76	84	
GRAND TOTAL for the Colony for } the above period - - }											571

Attorney General's Office, Cape Town,
27 October 1894.

NEW ZEALAND.

NEW ZEALAND.

— No. 5. —

The Earl of *Glasgow* to the Marquess of *Ripon*.

(Received 28 November 1894.)

My Lord,

Wellington, 18 October 1894.

IN reply to your Circular Despatch, dated 25th August 1894, I have the honour to forward a return from my Government showing the number of divorces granted in this Colony during the past 10 years.

I have, &c.
Glasgow.

Enclosure in No. 5.

RETURN of Divorces granted in the Colony of *New Zealand* during the past
Ten Years.

1893 - - - - 25	1888 - - - - 32
1892 - - - - 18	1887 - - - - 16
1891 - - - - 20	1886 - - - - 24
1890 - - - - 21	1885 - - - - 19
1889 - - - - 17	1884 - - - - 16

VICTORIA.

VICTORIA.

— No. 6. —

The Earl of *Hopetoun* to the Marquess of *Ripon*.

(Received 26 December 1894.)

My Lord,

Government House, Melbourne,
16 November 1894.

IN reply to your Lordship's Circular Despatch of the 25th August ultimo, I have the honour to transmit a return of the number of divorces granted in this Colony during the period from 31st October 1884 to 31st October 1894.

I have, &c.
Hopetoun.

Enclosure in No. 6.

VICTORIA.

MELBOURNE.		Dissolutions of Marriages.	Judicial Separations.	Nullity of Marriages.
31st October 1884		20	—	1
to				
31st October 1885		21	1	—
to				
31st October 1886		18	—	1
to				
31st October 1887		28	—	—
to				
31st October 1888		29	2	—
to				
31st October 1889		58	—	—
to				
31st October 1890		102	—	—
to				
31st October 1891		71	1	2
to				
31st October 1892		86	3	2
to				
31st October 1893		76	1	—
to				
31st October 1894		509	8	6
BALLARAT.				
1890 -		1	—	—
1891 -		2	—	—
1892 -		4	1	—
1893 -		6	—	—
1894 -		3	—	—
		16	1	—
BENDIGO.				
1890 -		1	—	—
1891 -		3	—	—
1892 -		5	—	—
1893 -		2	1	—
1894 -		2	—	—
		13	1	—
Number of Divorces granted from 31st October 1884 to 31st October 1894:				
At Melbourne				509
At Ballarat				16
At Bendigo				13
TOTAL				538
Number of Decrees - Nullity of Marriage: At Melbourne				6

WESTERN AUSTRALIA.

— No. 7. —

Sir *W. C. F. Robinson* to the Marquess of *Ripon*.

(Received 31 December 1894.)

Government House, Perth,
26 November 1894.

My Lord,

IN reply to your Lordship's Circular Despatch of the 25th of August, I have the honour to transmit herewith a return of the number of divorces granted in Western Australia during the last 10 years.

I have, &c.

W. C. F. Robinson.

Enclosure in No. 7.

RETURN of Divorces granted in *Western Australia* from 1884 to 1894.

Year.	Petition by Husband.	Petition by Wife.	TOTAL.	Year.	Petition by Husband.	Petition by Wife.	TOTAL.
1884 - -	-	-	-	1890 - -	2	-	2
1885 - -	-	1	1	1891 - -	-	-	-
1886 - -	1	1	2	1892 - -	2	-	2
1887 - -	1	-	1	1893 - -	1	-	1
1888 - -	-	1	1	1894 - -	-	-	-
1889 - -	-	1	1	TOTAL - - -			11

21 November 1894.

F. A. Moseley,
Registrar Supreme Court.

QUEENSLAND.

— No. 8. —

Sir *H. W. Norman* to the Marquess of *Ripon*.

(Received 7 January 1895.)

Government House, Brisbane,
27 November 1894.

My Lord Marquess,

IN compliance with the request contained in your Lordship's Circular Despatch of the 25th of August last, I have the honour to submit herewith a letter from my Chief Secretary covering a return of the number of divorces granted in each year during the past 10 years in the Colony of Queensland.

I have, &c.

H. W. Norman.

Enclosure in No. 8.

QUEENSLAND.

Chief Secretary's Office, Brisbane,
26 November 1894.

Sir,

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt from your Excellency of a Circular Despatch, dated the 25th August, from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, stating that an Address has been presented by the House of Commons to Her Majesty for a return of the number of divorces granted in each of the British Colonies and Possessions in each year during the past 10 years, and requesting to be furnished with the information desired in the return so far as it relates to this Colony.

The accompanying return, which has been received from the Department of Justice, furnishes the information asked for in Lord Ripon's Despatch.

I have, &c.

Hugh M. Nelson.

RETURN showing the Number of Decrees for Divorce, Judicial Separation, and Nullity of Marriage, made during the last Ten Years in *Queensland*.

YEAR.	Divorces.		Judicial Separation.	Nullity of Marriage.	TOTAL.
	Decrees made Absolute.	Decrees not made Absolute.			
1885 - -	-	-	1	-	1
1886 - -	1	-	-	-	1
1887 - -	2	-	1	-	3
1888 - -	2	-	-	-	2
1889 - -	12	-	-	1	13
1890 - -	5	4	2	-	11
1891 - -	4	-	1	-	5
1892 - -	5	4	-	-	9
1893 - -	2	3	2	-	7
1894 - -	4	2	-	1	7
TOTAL -	37	13	7	2	59

W. Cahill,
Under Secretary for Justice.

TASMANIA.

— No. 9. —

TASMANIA.

Viscount Gormanston to the Marquess of Ripon.

(Received 14 January 1895.)

Government House, Hobart, Tasmania,
7 December 1894.

My Lord,

IN compliance with the request contained in your Lordship's Circular Despatch, dated the 25th August last, I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship copy of a memorandum, which I have received through my Prime Minister, giving a return of the number of divorces granted in this Colony in each of the past 10 years.

I have, &c.

Gormanston.

TASMANIA.

Enclosure in No. 9.

RETURN of the Number of Divorces granted in the Colony of *Tasmania* in each Year during the past Ten Years.

Number of Divorces granted in the Colony of Tasmania in the year 1884										-	-	-
Ditto	-	-	ditto	-	-	ditto	-	-	1885	-	-	2
Ditto	-	-	ditto	-	-	ditto	-	-	1886	-	-	6
Ditto	-	-	ditto	-	-	ditto	-	-	1887	-	-	-
Ditto	-	-	ditto	-	-	ditto	-	-	1888	-	-	4
Ditto	-	-	ditto	-	-	ditto	-	-	1889	-	-	4
Ditto	-	-	ditto	-	-	ditto	-	-	1890	-	-	2
Ditto	-	-	ditto	-	-	ditto	-	-	1891	-	-	3
Ditto	-	-	ditto	-	-	ditto	-	-	1892	-	-	5
Ditto	-	-	ditto	-	-	ditto	-	-	1893	-	-	7
TOTAL										-	-	33

Registry Office, Supreme Court, Hobart,
24 October 1894.

G. Patten Adams,
Registrar of the Supreme Court of Tasmania.

C A N A D A.

— No. 10. —

CANADA.

The Earl of *Aberdeen* to the Marquess of *Ripon*.

(Received 21 January 1895.)

[*Further Despatch, No. 12.*]

My Lord,

Montreal, 28 December 1894.

IN reply to your Lordship's Circular Despatch of the 25th August last, requesting that you might be supplied with information relative to the number of divorces granted in Canada during the past 10 years, I have the honour to transmit copy of an approved Minute of the Privy Council submitting the required information.

I have, &c.
Aberdeen.

Enclosure in No. 10.

EXTRACT from a Report of the Committee of the Honourable The Privy Council, approved by his Excellency on the 24th December 1894.

ON a Report, dated the 3rd December 1894, from the Secretary of State, adverting to the Circular Despatch from the Colonial Office, dated the 25th of August last, advising your Excellency of the adoption of an Address to Her Majesty by the House of Commons of the United Kingdom, for a return of the number of divorces granted in each of the British Colonies and Possessions in each year during the past 10 years, and with reference to the Order in Council of the 8th October last, made upon consideration of the said Despatch,—

The

The Minister states that, as is set forth more in detail in the schedule hereto attached, divorces were granted within the Dominion of Canada to the number and by the authority below mentioned during the period indicated :—

(a) By the Parliament of Canada, 42.

(b) By the Supreme Court of British Columbia, 23. (Three of these were "Judicial Separations.")

(c) By the Court of Divorce and Matrimonial Causes of Nova Scotia, 34.

The Committee, on the recommendation of the Secretary of State, advise that your Excellency be moved to forward a certified copy of this Minute, if approved, together with its annexes, to the Right honourable the Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies.

John J. McGee,
Clerk of the Privy Council.

STATEMENT of Divorces granted by the Parliament of the Dominion of *Canada*,
during Ten Years from 1885 to 1894.

1885	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	1891	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
1886	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1892	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
1887	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	1893	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
1888	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	1894	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
1889	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	TOTAL Number of Divorce Bills } passed during the period mentioned } 42							
1890	-	-	-	-	-	-	2								

(Certified.)

Ottawa, 18 October 1894.

Edouard J. Langevin,
Clerk of the Senate of Canada.

NUMBER of Divorces granted in the Supreme Court of *British Columbia*, from 1st of
January 1884 to the 31st October 1894.

During the year 1884	-	2	
" " 1885	-	Nil.	
" " 1886	-	1	
" " 1887	-	2	
" " 1888	-	3	
" " 1889	-	3	
" " 1890	-	3	
" " 1891	-	3	
" " 1892	-	3	1 a Judicial Separation.
" " 1893	-	2	ditto
" " 1894	-	1	A Judicial Separation.
TOTAL	-	23	

31 October 1894.

Harvey Combe,
Deputy Registrar.

CANADA.

MEMORANDUM of Suits brought in Her Majesty's Court for Divorce and Matrimonial Causes for the Province of *Nova Scotia* for Years 1884 (1st January) to 28th November 1894, in which suits decrees absolute for the dissolution of the marriage were granted.

1884	-	-	-	-	4	1890	-	-	-	-	2
1885	-	-	-	-	4	1891	-	-	-	-	3
1886	-	-	-	-	4	1892	-	-	-	-	3
1887	-	-	-	-	1	1893	-	-	-	-	5
1888	-	-	-	-	2	1894	-	-	-	-	1
1889	-	-	-	-	5	TOTAL					34

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

— No. 11. —

Lieutenant Governor *Way* to the Marquess of *Ripon*.

(Received 5 March 1895.)

Government House, Adelaide,
29 January 1895.

My Lord,

WITH reference to your Lordship's Despatch, marked "Circular," and dated the 25th August 1894, concerning the number of divorces granted in each of the British Colonies and Possessions, I have the honour to transmit herewith a copy of a Memorandum from the Master of the Supreme Court of this Colony giving the information desired so far as it relates to South Australia.

2. I greatly regret the delay that has occurred in transmitting this return to your Lordship. The Despatch was forwarded to the Government Offices on the 20th October last, and was not returned until the 23rd instant.

I have, &c.

S. J. Way.

Enclosure in No. 11.

RETURN showing the Number of Divorces granted in the Colony of *South Australia* during the Ten Years ending 31st December 1893.

Year.	Number of Divorces.	Year.	Number of Divorces.
1884 - - - - -	8	1890 - - - - -	2
1885 - - - - -	9	1891 - - - - -	5
1886 - - - - -	10	1892 - - - - -	7
1887 - - - - -	3	1893 - - - - -	8
1888 - - - - -	2	1894 to date - - -	7
1889 - - - - -	6		

30 October 1894.

Alex. Buchanan,
Master Supreme Court.

C A N A D A.

— No. 12. —

CANADA.

The Earl of *Aberdeen* to the Marquess of *Ripon*.

(Received 7 May 1895.)

Government House, Ottawa,
19 April 1895.

My Lord,

IN reply to your Lordship's Despatch of the 8th March last*, asking for a return of the number of divorces granted in Prince Edward Island in each of the last 10 years, I have the honour to enclose herewith copy of an approved Minute representing that, as no provincial divorce system exists in that Island, it was not deemed necessary to make special mention of it in the returns transmitted with my Despatch of the 28th December last†.

I have, &c.
Aberdeen.

Enclosure in No. 12.

EXTRACT from a Report of the Committee of the Honourable the Privy Council, approved by His Excellency on the 11th April 1895.

THE Committee of the Privy Council have had under consideration a Despatch, hereto attached, dated 8th March 1895, from the Marquess of Ripon, requesting to be furnished at the earliest possible date with a return of the number of divorces granted in Prince Edward Island in each of the last 10 years.

The Secretary of State, to whom the question was referred, submits, with reference to the Minute of Council dated 24th December 1894, upon divorces and judicial separations within the Dominion from 1884 to 1894, that it was not deemed necessary to make special mention of Prince Edward Island more than of any of the other Provinces of Canada which are without a divorce system.

The Minister observes that the Lieutenant Governor of Prince Edward Island reported, on the 3rd November 1894, that he had been advised by his Ministers "that there has been no divorce system in existence in the Province within the last 10 years."

The Committee advise that your Excellency be moved to forward a certified copy of this Minute to the Right honourable the Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies.

All which is respectfully submitted for your Excellency's approval.

John J. McGee,
Clerk of the Privy Council.

* Not printed.

† No. 10.

DIVORCES (FOREIGN COUNTRIES AND
BRITISH COLONIES).

RETURN of the Number of DIVORCES granted in each
of the British Colonies and Possessions, and in each
of the principal Foreign Countries, together with
the Population, in each Year during the past Ten
Years.

PART II.—BRITISH COLONIES.

(*Mr. Henniker Heaton.*)

*Ordered, by The House of Commons, to be Printed,
30 August 1895.*

[*Price 2d.*]

